

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (KREISKY, CHANCELLOR BRUNO), AU

SUBJECT:CHANCELLOR KREISKY DEPARTS AFTER SUCCESSFUL NEW  
YORK VISIT

REF: (A) VIENNA 3124, (B) VIENNA 2871

1. CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY OF AUSTRIA DEPARTED FROM NEW  
YORK FOR EUROPE ON APRIL 17, FOLLOWING A BUSY AND  
SUCCESSFUL NEW YORK PROGRAM. THE HIGHLIGHT OF KREISKY'S  
VISIT WAS HIS RECEIPT OF THE ANNUAL FREEDOM AWARD OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE AT THE HOTEL PIERRE ON  
APRIL 14, IN RECOGNITION OF AUSTRIA'S POSTWAR "UPHOLDING  
OF THE RIGHT OF ASYLUM FOR REFUGEES" AND GENEROSITY IN  
"GIVING SANCTUARY TO EXILES COMING FROM TOTALITARIAN COUN-  
TRIES."

2. OVER FIVE HUNDRED PERSONS ATTENDED THE AWARD DINNER,  
WHICH FEATURED: THE READING OF A MESSAGE FROM THE  
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PRESIDENT BY AMBASSADOR FRANK L. KELLOGG, SPECIAL

ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR REFUGEE AND MIGRATION AFFAIRS (COPY BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY); AN ADDRESS BY ECONOMIST GUNNAR MYRDAL AN OLD FRIEND OF THE CHANCELLOR; AND THE PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD BY CHAIRMAN LEO CHERNE, IRC, WHO TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

ON THE ACTUAL SITUATION FOLLOWING THE SCHOENAU CASTLE INCIDENT OF LATE 1973 (I.E., THAT THE KREISKY GOVERNMENT DID NOT TERMINATE OR RESTRICT THE FLOW OF JEWISH EMIGRANTS FROM THE USSR).

3. IN HIS SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE (AMENDED TEXT BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY), KREISKY ENDORSED STRONGLY THE SECRETARY'S STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH TOWARD THE SETTLEMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, STATING: "IF THE LATEST MISSION OF HENRY KISSINGER WAS A FAILURE, IT DOES NOT FOLLOW THAT HIS NEXT MISSION WILL ALSO FAIL. AND WHOEVER CRITICIZES KISSINGER'S STEP-BY-STEP POLICY MUST CONSIDER THAT HE WAS THE ONLY STATESMAN DURING THE LAST THIRTY YEARS WHO SUCCEEDED IN HALTING A BLOODY WAR-- ONLY TEMPORARILY, MAYBE, BUT NINETEEN MONTHS AFTER THE FALL-SCALE WAR STOPPED THERE ARE ISOLATED INDIVIDUAL ENGAGEMENTS, BUT NO LARGE BATTLES. THIS IS A HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT." DR. NICHOLAS SCHERK, HIS AIDE, LATER TOLD A DEPARTMENT OFFICER THAT MOST OF THE SUBSEQUENT INQUIRIES KREISKY RECEIVED FROM THE NEW YORK PRESS DEALT WITH THIS PART OF HIS SPEECH. KREISKY REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT OF THE STEP-BY-STEP POLICY, TERMING IT "THE ONLY USEFUL APPROACH."

4. ALTHOUGH THE DEPARTMENT OFFERED KREISKY A CHOICE OF THREE TIMES HE COULD SEE THE SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON, AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL B, THE CHANCELLOR DECIDED THAT HIS BUSY NEW YORK SCHEDULE DID NOT PERMIT A SIDE TRIP TO WASHINGTON. HOWEVER, THE SECRETARY AND THE CHANCELLOR DID HAVE A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION APRIL 17.

5. AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON HAVE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER LIKELIHOOD THAT THE IRC'S PRESENTATION OF THIS AWARD TO KREISKY MIGHT FINALLY LAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE SCHOENAU CASTLE CONTROVERSY TO REST. THERE WAS SOME DISAPPOINTMENT, HOWEVER, OVER THE FACT THAT THE EVENT DO NOT RECEIVE MUCH MEDIA ATTENTION OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** VIENNA  
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